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Following strictly FYI:

In letter to President dated October 20 de Gaulle stated he struck by degree

urgency in President's desire for East-West detente. While he also felt this urgent, he very reserved concerning possible useful results of summit conference. None of subjects which might be discussed have as yet been suitably prepared for summit treatment.

Hasty summit might result in focussing attention on fundamental East-West disagreements or in giving in to Soviets.

Detente could develop in next few months to point where summit would have better chance of success. French will watch Soviet performance in UN and towards Southeast Asia (India, Quemoy, Laos, etc.), Middle East and Africa. Meanwhile, contacts such as Nixon and Khrushchev trips give us further information. De Gaulle considered there nothing pressing with regard Berlin, where status quo could easily remain. Therefore, he proposed summit for end of May or June. He also proposing this to Macmillan. If agreed, West should then inform Moscow and announce publicly.

De Gaulle said he favored Western summit, with Adenauer, but not at present, preferably beginning of spring. Further exchanges could be made by diplomatic channels and bilateral visits, including early de Gaulle visit London and later, if President agrees, de Gaulle visit Washington. De Gaulle also reinvited President to Paris.

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The Secretary of State
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Comments:

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